

March 14, 1978

LB 44

SENATOR MARESH: Thank you.

SPEAKER LUEDTKE: Chair recognizes Senator Kelly.

SENATOR KELLY: Mr. President, colleagues. I'm delighted to commend Senator Koch on what I consider one of the more important pieces of legislation that is in this Legislature in 1978. We spend untold dozens of hours on this floor discussing bills, amending and moving forward and changing the statutes simply because the agencies were unresponsive in their rules and regulations. With LB 44 in place we can do this by committee which is responsible and efficient and I highly commend this procedure to the Legislature.

PRESIDENT WHELAN PRESIDING

PRESIDENT: Senator Murphy.

SENATOR MURPHY: A question of Senator Koch. Senator Koch, in Section 2 you provide that the standing committee shall consist of seven members, and I don't think that if it is in the bill I missed it, that the members will either select their own chairman or if there are two from each district....

SENATOR KOCH: We struck that Section, Senator Murphy. Now we treat that committee just like we do a standing committee of the body presently and that person would run for chairman and be elected just like other chair people.

SENATOR MURPHY: I don't think that the bill specifically says that, is my problem. It says that the committee will function as all other committees and that it shall have seven members but I think that is as close as we come. I think that it might clarify it to say that the chairman shall be elected as all other chairmen and the membership designated from the caucuses. Oh, it does? I'm sorry. Yes, apparently it does.

PRESIDENT: Chair recognizes Senator Venditte.

SENATOR VENDITTE: Mr. President, members of the Legislature. In the committee action I understood, or at least I read where Senator Stoney had voted "no" to send this bill to the floor. To Senator Stoney, if you would using my time, I would like to know if you would yield as to why voted no to send this bill to the floor of the Legislature.

SENATOR STONEY: Senator Venditte, first let me say that this has been nearly a year since the Government Committee considered this particular issue. As you all know we presently have a special committee that deals with the Rules and Regulations for the Legislature. I think that the major concern that I had was whether or not this bill would in effect provide us with more power than what we presently have in our present Rules and Regulations committee. I might ask Senator Koch to espound a little bit further on that, and would also ask if he could explain what we plan to do with the present Rules and Regulations committee that we have that is a special committee of the Legislature. If Senator Koch would answer that please.

SENATOR KOCH: Question Senator Stoney, I'm sorry, I missed it.

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